

Believe in a Better Way

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Engineers for Social Impact (E4SI) 2009 Fellowship Program

Bangalore, India [January 14, 2009] – The Engineers for Social Impact (E4SI) fellowship program has commenced its second annual rigorous recruitment process to match the most talented ten undergraduate students from fifteen elite Indian engineering schools with partner social enterprises that focus on development by means of sustainable forprofit entrepreneurship. E4SI fellowships promise to be highly entrepreneurial in a way that combines the best of consulting, technology, and social innovation. Fellows will gain unprecedented access to the development sector as they work with leading social entrepreneurs, attend leadership workshops at the Indian School of Business (ISB), Hyderabad, and pitch their ideas to thought leaders as they join an outstanding cohort of exceptional young leaders.

Partner social enterprises for the 2009 edition of the E4SI fellowship program are leaders in microfinance, multiple bottom-line investment advisory, education, energy, and healthcare. Among them are: <u>Ujjivan</u>, one of the fastest growing microfinance institutions that serves poor urban Indian women by optimizing microfinance with modern retail banking technologies; Intellecap, a strategic advisory firm that mobilizes investments for socially-motivated businesses; iDiscoveri, an experiential education organization focused on self-discovery and meaningful learning in economically emerging societies; Solar Electric Light Company (SELCO India), a company that provides reliable, affordable, and environmentally sustainable energy services to rural homes and businesses; D.light Design, an organization that believes everybody deserves modern light and provides innovative solutions for people living in a power constrained world; dhanaX, an awardwinning online-offline person-to-person lending platform that draws inspiration from the entrepreneurial spirit of thousands of small farmers, underprivileged women, and small business owners across the globe; and Vaatsalya, a company that seeks to expand rural and semi-urban healthcare by building and managing hospitals where they are needed most.

E4SI Fellows will be selected from the following undergraduate engineering schools throughout India: BITS Pilani, BITS Goa, IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Guwahati, IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Madras, IIT Roorkee, IIIT Allahabad, IIIT Hyderabad, NIT Trichy, NIT Warangal, NITK Surathkal, and NSIT. E4SI is looking for candidates who demonstrate a keen interest in entrepreneurship and believe in development through enterprise. E4SI Fellows, as leaders in their peer groups, will raise awareness of

sustainable opportunities being brought about by social initiatives. Sameer Segal, cofounder of E4SI, believes that ventures like Engineers for Social Impact will introduce India's top talent to the for-profit approach to development, help them learn to make a difference, and let them see the development sector holds exciting and viable career options. For more information on the Engineers for Social Impact fellowship and details on how to apply for the 2009 edition, please visit the <u>E4SI website</u>. Applications will become available online on January 15, 2009 and are due back on February 22, 2009. Fellows, chosen by an eminent panel of judges with degrees from Harvard, MIT, the University of Michigan, and Yale, will be declared on March 11, 2009.

## About Engineers for Social Impact (E4SI)

The Engineers for Social Impact (E4SI) Fellowship is a unique program that connects top engineering talent to credible social enterprises driving market-based solutions to development in India. It serves a dual need: matching talented students with worthy social enterprises and increasing awareness of for-profit approaches to development.

Engineers for Social Impact have been described as "a group of doers and dreamers" who seek to imbue a culture of social entrepreneurship in India's youth. Not only do they provide hands-on training for new doers and dreamers but they also give their fellows complete freedom to be creative in their immersion experiences.

## Contact

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